IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE In re Patent Application of: BECKER et al. Serial No. 09/523,237 Filed: March 10, 2000 For: KITS FOR AMPLIFYING TARGET NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES USING MODIFIED OLIGONUCLEOTIDES Oroup Art Unit: 1635 Examiner: Lacourciere, K. Atty. Docket No. GP068-03.CN1 Confirmation No. 5771

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In further response to the Examiner's Final Office Action mailed on January 6, 2004, kindly enter the following amendments to the specification and consider the following remarks in connection with the above-captioned application.